ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This book is the result of a research project financed by the Roma Culture Initiative, at the Open Society Institute, Budapest. We appreciate their support!

We owe our acquaintance with zurnaci music and the publishing of the study on this tradition, preserved by Roma musicians, to many people whom we would like to thank.

We are grateful to the dozens of players who have welcomed us in their homes, shared the secrets of their lives and music in friendly conversations, playing for us and giving us their intoxicating music. The names of all these people are published in the book, but some of them provided more than just information. Demko, Samir, Kurta Kurtovi and Selim Demirov from Kavrakirovo; Akif and Mustafa Sarchevi, Mustafa Mahmud, Shukri Sejranov, Abdul Madzhirov, Ivo Teshovsky (Raif) from Gotse Delchev; Feim Eminov (Chitaka) from Drbnitsa; Yusuf Limanov and his sons Yusuf, Ismail and Mladen from Debren and Grrmen; Iliya Zangov and his sons, Mancho Kamburov and Ivan Dimitrov (Bamcho) from Razlog; Miho, Ivan and Asen Kurtovi from Petrich; Ivaylo Ivanov from Sofia were our guides in the exploration of zurnaci music.

We would like to thank:

Elena Marushiakova and Vesselin Popov, the prominent scholars in Gypsy studies, for the information they provided and the ideas they shared;

the Finnish ethnomusicologist Risto Pekka Pennanen, for the long mutual zurnaci adventures, for the recordings and photographs he has supplied us with;

the editor and reviewers of the book Rosemary Statelova, Elisaveta Vrltschinova-Tschendova and Tsenka Yordanova for their expert review of the manuscript as well as for their helpful criticism;

our colleagues from the Institute of Art Studies Svetlana Zharieva, Ljuben Botusharov, Biserka Penkova, Ivanka Gergova, Raina Mihailova and Margarita Popova whose information has been very valuable;

Elena Toncheva, Director of the Institute of Art Studies, for the courtesy to give us access to the richest archive of traditional music in Bulgaria; Ivan Kumitchin, the sound archive specialist;

the Editorial Board of the journal Bulgarian Musicology and its Editor-in-Chief Dimitrr Christov for the attention and assistance in the publication of the book;

Galina Lozanova and Bozhidar Alexiev, our colleagues from the Institute of Folklore, for their expertise on the matter of Bulgarian Muslims;

our young colleague Marinela Velikova, student from the University of Cologne, Germany, for copies of literature and bibliographic checks;

Assen Alexandrov, our young assistant, the mediator between us and the computer;

the translators Ivanka Ivanova and Angel Igov; Mark Bossanyi who edited part of the English version;

our foreign colleagues Timothy Rice, Carol Silverman and Donna Buchanan for the discussions and the partnership in the research project;

the Bulgarian scholars Ivan Marazov, Veska Zhivkova and Ivanka Vlaeva for the valuable discussions and ideas;

the Director of the Ethnographic Museum in Sofia Nadezhda Teneva and the curator of the Municipal Historic Museum in Gotse Delchev Spaska Paskova for their kind permission to use the archive funds;

activists from local chitalishta: Katja Harizanova and Katja Brankova from Razlog, Angel Angov from Petrich, Andon Bardarov from Krrnarovo, Angel Lazarov from Drbnitsa, Sasho Lazarov from Simitli, Maya Prdareva, Ivan Popov, Yordana Georgieva, Yordana Dimitrova from Belitsa, Shaban and Zeynep Asan from Gotse Delchev—for the information on the local history and traditions as well as for the photo-documentation;

the masters of sounds and pictures: Svetljo Davidov, Penko Russev, Ognyan Kiossovski and Ventsi Drenikov for their collaboration while working on the music appendixes;

the cover designer Krsto Terziev; Zvezdelin Andreev and the Zvezdan printing house for their precise work.